Casual Labour in Railways

226. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of casual labour in different zones of Railways awaiting absorption and the number of them who are likely to be absorbed during 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Casual labour are not automatically by mere passage of time absorbed in regular employment. Their absorption in regular service depends upon factors like availability of vacancies in the relevant unit of absorption, suitability for regular service and length of service as casual labour.

There are at present about 2.20 lakh casual labour on Railways who, as per instructions currently in force, will be eligible to be considered for absorption on the basis indicated above. Further extant instruction also provide for consideration of discharged casual labour borne on current casual labour Register if they approach the Administration at the time of screening.

It is not possible to indicate at this stage the number of casual labour likely to be absorbed in regular employment during 1985-86.

Bills pertaining to Colleges in West Bengal pending Presidential Assent

227. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Bills pertaining to different colleges in West Bengal pending assent of the President since 1981; and

(b) what are the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) No Bill pertaining to Colleges in West Bengal is pending for assent of the President.

(b) Does not arise.

Loan from the World Bank to the National Thermal Power Corporation

228. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has advanced a loan to the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, what is the amount of the loan and how best Government propose to make use of the loan; and

(c) whether a proposal to revamp the NTPC is under consideration of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) The World Bank approved a loan of US $ 250 million to the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited on 28th May 1985, to be utilised for construction of transmission system associated with the Rihand Super Thermal Power Station.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to revamp the NTPC.

Standardisation of Ayurvedic and Unani Systems of Medicine

229. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government favour Standardisation of the Ayurvedic and Unani Systems of medicine; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has been taking steps to evolve Pharmacopoeial standards for Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs. For this purpose, the following Committees constituted by the Government are functioning:

(1) Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia Committee;

(2) Unani Pharmacopoeia Committee; and

(3) Siddha Pharmacopoeia Committee.

The Scientific work in connection with standardisation is being done mainly by the following agencies;

1. Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha.

2. Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine.

3. Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine, Ghaziabad.

Proposal for setting up of separate Medical Universities

230. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up separate medical universities on the pattern of agricultural universities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The Medical Education Review Committee has made recommendations regarding the setting up of Universities of Health Sciences in order to bring about coordination between various educational and training institutions of the modern and various Indian Systems of Medicine. Nurses, Pharmacists etc. Government are yet to take a final view in the matter.

Demands of the All Railway Catering Association

231. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any charter of demands from the All Railway Catering Association (Northern Railways);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the employees of the catering service in northern railways were working with black badges on their uniforms; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to fulfil their demands, demand-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) A strike notice along with a charter of demands was received in March 1985 from the General Secretary Rail Mazdoor Union, an unrecognized union and not from the All Railway Catering Association (Northern Railway).

The main demands are regularisation of allotment of railway quarters, supply of terry-cot uniforms and absorption of casual staff, commission-bearers, vendors, etc. In support of their demands, some of the catering staff, particularly those working in Parliament Complex Canteen wore badges while on duty.

As per the extant policy, all grievances of staff are examined on merits irrespective of the source from which they emanate and remedial